

## **SMELT WHOLESALE LICENSE AUTHORIZATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS**

These provisions apply to the taking and selling of live smelts under the smelt wholesaler's license.

### **A. The holder of a smelt wholesale dealer's license **may**:**

(1) The holder of a smelt wholesaler's license shall comply with the same daily bag limit and the same tackle restrictions that apply to all other anglers and is subject to the same penalties for violations of those limits and restrictions.

(2) Use a drop net, a lift net or hook and line to take up to 8 quarts of smelts through man-made openings in the ice while fishing on the ice from specific inland waters designated by the commissioner. A dip net may be used in conjunction with the above methods to assist with the handling and transporting of smelts. A licensee may keep the daily bag limit alive. The daily bag limit is for a 24-hour period, beginning at noon on a given day and ending at 11:59 a.m. the following day;

(2-A) In waters naturally free of ice, take smelts from noon to 2:00 a.m. by the use of a dip net in the usual and ordinary way. The daily bag limit is for a 24-hour period, beginning at noon on a given day and ending at 11:59 a.m. the following day.

(3) Use artificial light for the purpose of luring smelts to a drop net or a lift net;

(4) Transport or possess at the holder's business facility more than the daily bag limit of smelts provided that the smelts were taken by the license holder or acquired from a person licensed under this section to deal in live smelts;

(5) Designate others to assist in selling live smelts at the holder's business facility; and

(6) Transport or designate others to transport on the license holder's behalf live smelts in accordance with this subsection.

### **B. The holder of a smelt wholesale dealer's license **may not**:**

(1) When engaged in taking, or assisting in taking, live smelts for resale from inland waters, fail to exhibit the license to any agent of the commissioner upon request;

(2) Take multiple bag limits from waters governed by general rules regulating the taking of smelts in order to attain the 8-quart limit of smelts described in paragraph A, subparagraph (2);

(3) Use a seine to take smelts;

(5) Transport from an inland water source to the licensee's place of business more than 8 quarts of live smelts;

(6) Permit any person to transport live smelts on the license holder's behalf directly from an inland water source;

(7) Attempt to take from the inland waters of the State live smelts for resale using drop nets through the ice unless the license holder marks all holes made in the ice by that license holder for that purpose. The holes must be marked either by evergreen boughs placed around the hole or by suspending at least one strand of fluorescent biodegradable tape at least 3 feet above the ice around the entire perimeter of the hole so that the tape is visible from all sides;

(8) Take smelts unless the holder uses an operable commercially manufactured number 14 fish grader to sort smelts by size during the taking of smelts. The holder shall liberate immediately all undersized smelts alive into the waters from which they were taken. For the purpose of this subparagraph, a commercially manufactured number 14 grader is a grader having a minimum grate size of 14/64 inches and that allows smelts to pass through at least 2 sides and the bottom of the grader.

(9) Possess at that person's place of business any species of fish that may not legally be sold as bait;

(10) Use particles of food or any other type of bait or lure except light to lure smelts to a drop net or a lift net; or

(11) Use a dip net to take smelts unless that dip net meets the requirements under section 10001, subsection 12-A.